

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:**

Please replace the claims with the claims provided in the listing below wherein status, amendments, additions and cancellations are indicated.

- 1.(Currently Amended) A seat ring for a butterfly valve comprising:  
a hollow cylindrical body portion with two side flange surfaces; ~~each of said side surfaces being a flange surface,~~  
an outer circumference of said body portion having an elliptic shape with a stem axial direction as its longitudinal axis~~[[,]]~~; ~~and~~  
an inner circumference of said body portion having a circular shape and a constant radius;  
an annular protrusion protruding radially outwardly from an axial center  
of said outer circumference of said body portion; and  
wherein a ratio of a thickness dimension of the body portion from the  
inner circumference in the stem axial direction to the thickness dimension in the  
direction perpendicular to the stem axis from the inner circumference is 1.01:1  
to 2:1.

- 2.(Canceled)

3.(Canceled)

4.(Currently Amended) The seat ring for a butterfly valve according to claim[[3]]1, said annular protrusion having a rectangular sectional shape.

5.(Previously Presented) The seat ring for a butterfly valve according to claim 1, further comprising two stem through-holes, each said through-hole having on a periphery portion a shape boss portion.

6.(Previously Presented) The seat ring for a butterfly valve according to claim 1, further comprising a lug portion on an upper end of each flange surface.

7.(Previously Presented) The seat ring for a butterfly valve according to claim 1, wherein said seat ring is made of at least one of EPDM, NBR or PVDF.

8.(Previously Presented) The seat ring for a butterfly valve according to claim 1, further comprising two stem through-holes, each of said stem through-holes having a ring.